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REFERENCE:
MISSION 1043

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY
EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT
CAIRO WEST, BENI SUEF, NEW VALLEY, AND DARAW AIRFIELDS.

2. REMARKS:

PRIOR TO THE RECENT ARAB/ISRAELI WAR THE EGYPTIANS
HAD BASED MOST OF THEIR AIRCRAFT IN THE AL QAHIRAH
(CAIRO) AND QANAT AS SUWAYS (SUEZ CANAL) AREAS.
THIS CONCENTRATION OF THEIR AIRCRAFT IN NORTHERN
EGYPT AND THE LACK OF DISPERSAL AREAS AND HARDENED
FACILITIES AT THEIR PRIMARY AIRFIELDS PARTIALLY
ACCOUNTED FOR THEIR ESTIMATED LOSS OF 230 FIGHTERS
AND 56 BOMBERS (COMINT)* DURING THE WAR. THE
RUNWAY EXTENSIONS AT DARAW AND NEW VALLEY AIRFIELDS
MAY BE INDICATIVE OF A CHANGE IN EGYPTIAN POLICY IN
WHICH THEY NOW PLAN TO DISPERSE THEIR AIRCRAFT TO
THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. THE CONSTRUCTION
OF ADDITIONAL DISPERSAL AREAS AND HANGARETTES AT
CAIRO WEST AND BENI SUEF AIRFIELDS IS PROBABLY AN
ATTEMPT TO CORRECT ANOTHER ONE OF THE DEFICIENCIES
EXEMPLIFIED BY THE RECENT WAR.

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4. FIRST IDENTIFICATION:

THIS MISSION PROVIDES THE FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT THE FOUR AIRFIELDS.

5. NEGATION DATE:

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY CAN BE NEGATED ON THE FOLLOWING MISSIONS:

CAIRO WEST

BENI SUEF

NEW VALLEY

DARAW

6. SUBSEQUENT COVERAGE:

NONE

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7. DIMENSIONS/
SPECIFICATIONS:

CAIRO WEST - 9,770 X 205 FT NW/SSE RUNWAY

8,125 X 150 FT E/W RUNWAY

BENI SUEF - 11,450 X 200 FT NNE/SSW RUNWAY

NEW VALLEY - 9,010 X 165 FT N/S RUNWAY

DARAW - 9,500 X 110 FT N/S RUNWAY

8. MISSION READOUT:

CAIRO AIRFIELD WEST - A NEW DISPERSAL AREA CONTAINING

6 PROBABLE HANGARETTES IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION OFF THE EASTERN END OF THE E/W RUNWAY. A TAXIWAY CONNECTING THE NEW DISPERSAL AREA TO THE E/W RUNWAY IS ALSO UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

OB: 1 PROBABLE BADGER AND 1 POSSIBLE SMALL SWEEP-WING AIRCRAFT.

BENI SUEF AIRFIELD - TWO NEW DISPERSAL AREAS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION OFF THE NORTHERN END OF THE RUNWAY. ONE CONTAINS AT LEAST 6 HARDSTANDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND IS SERVED BY A LOOP TAXIWAY. A SPUR TAXIWAY LEADS NE TO THE SECOND DISPERSAL AREA WHICH CONTAINS 5 BUILDINGS (POSSIBLY HANGARETTES).

OB: 7 LIGHT STRAIGHT-WING AIRCRAFT.

NEW VALLEY AIRFIELD - THE 5,000 FT RUNWAY IS BEING EXTENDED WITH THE SURFACED DIMENSIONS BEING 9,010 X 165 FT WITH AN ADDITIONAL 605 FT ON THE NORTH END, POSSIBLY UNDER PREPARATION FOR SURFACING. A CONCRETE TOUCHDOWN HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED ON THE SOUTH END.

OB: NONE OBSERVED.

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DARAW AIRFIELD - THE 8,000 FT RUNWAY IS BEING EXTENDED AND RESURFACED WITH BLACKTOP. APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS ARE 9,500 X 110 FT. A NEW PARALLEL BLACKTOP TAXIWAY AND CROSSOVER LINKS ARE ALSO UNDER CONSTRUCTION. OB: NONE OBSERVED.

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CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

EGYPTIAN AIRFIELDS

CAIRO WEST AIRFIELD
30-07N 30-55E

DISPERSAL AREA U/C

RUNWAY
9770' X 205'

NEW VALLEY AIRFIELD
25-27N 30-34E

RUNWAY
9010' X 165'

RUNWAY EXTENSION
IN PROGRESS

20X ENLARGEMENT

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR COPY NUMBER

BENI SUEF AIRFIELD
29-12N 31-01E

DISPERSAL AREA U/C

TAXIWAY U/C

RUNWAY
11,450' X 200'

DARAW AIRFIELD
24-25N 32-57E

RUNWAY
9500' X 110'

RUNWAY EXTENSION
IN PROGRESS

PARALLEL
TAXIWAY U/C

RUNWAY EXTENSION
IN PROGRESS

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